

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE Contact: Cooper Bratton
Date: November 10, 2004 Phone: 919/733-5612

EASLEY ANNOUNCES 40 JOBS AND \$1.6 MILLION INVESTMENT IN CHARLOTTE

RALEIGH— Gov. Mike Easley today announced that McGrann Paper Corp. is relocating its headquarters and distribution center from Watertown, N.Y., to Charlotte, creating 40 jobs and \$1.6 million in investment.

"We welcome McGrann Paper Corporation as our newest corporate citizen," Easley said. "McGrann's decision to locate in North Carolina is proof that our investments in education, workforce development and infrastructure continue to pay off."

McGrann Paper will lease a 140,000-square-foot building and plans to be operational by the end of the year. The average pay for the 40 new jobs will be \$49,000 annually. Half of the jobs will be administrative jobs in the new headquarters, while the other half will be manufacturing/warehousing positions.

The move was made possible in part by a \$40,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund, which helps the state recruit and expand quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the Governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through the use of the One North Carolina Fund, nearly 12,000 jobs and \$1 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

McGrann Paper Corp. President Karl McGrann said the company wanted to move closer to paper mills it does business with in Asheville; Catawba, S.C.; and Calhoun, Tenn.

"When we saw Charlotte, we knew we had found our new home," McGrann said. "Charlotte's business-friendly climate, excellent workforce and abundance of cultural activities make it a perfect city in which to locate our headquarters."

Although its headquarters will move, McGrann said the New York plant will remain open. The company also has facilities in Canton, Ohio, and Pomona, California. The company currently employs 80 workers across the U.S. When the Charlotte facility opens, total employment will reach 120.

For information about the new jobs being created by McGrann Paper Corp., call the Employment Securities Commission's Charlotte office at (704) 342-6865.

###